

Tiverton Open Space and Land Preservation Commission

Minutes of April 20, 2009 Meeting

Essex Library, Highland Road

Present: Ginger Lacy (co-chair), Brian Janes (co-chair), Garry Plunkett, Dick Bixby, Susan Anderson, Martha Moore, and Gayle Lawrence. There were no guests.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by Ginger Lacy.

Administrative

- March minutes were accepted as corrected.
- Land & Water Conservation Summit: Sue, Garry and Gayle commented on overall high quality of sessions attended.
 - Noteworthy was Tom Wessels, keynote speaker and author of *Reading the Forested Landscape*, who provided an overview of the changing landscape of New England.
 - Garry is following up with Alan Leveillee, archeologist of Public Archeology Lab, who may be a resource for a preservation project in Weetamoo Woods.
 - Sue and Gayle obtained useful materials on writing small grants and guiding trail walks.
- Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented by Dick: Open Space Appropriation: \$32.71; Fort Barton Appropriation: \$1,704.61; Open Space Stewardship: \$9,789.29; Pocassetlands Stewardship: \$2,895.00; Open Space Acquisition: \$51,161.77.
- Bill for services of LJ Silva for Weetamoo Woods in the amount of \$3,350. was outlined by Garry. Approximately \$800. will be covered by NRCS '09 grant monies. Garry will invoice NRCS for reimbursement for cost of removal of invasive species as per grant specifications. Payment to LJ will be made out of Open Space Stewardship account. Dick and Garry will follow up with Treasurer's office.
- Volunteer hours were documented in log being kept by Garry.
- Ginger reported on the recent Tiverton High School event, "Greenstock '09," where TOSC had a display, including photos taken in Weetamoo, entitled "Green Space Rocks!" and in Fort Barton with the "Woodland Meditation." It was suggested that we might contact Elizabeth McGreavy and the other student members of the "Green Club," who organized this event, and offer to meet with them about shared interests.
- Gayle brought a question from Paul Ricard of DEM regarding the use of Forest Legacy funds for purchase of properties in Weetamoo. It was determined that no funding had been provided for Weetamoo property by that program.

Fort Barton Historic Preservation

- In March, Sue participated in a workshop by R I Historic Preservation Commission. She felt the funding opportunity described would be good fit for historic preservation study of Fort Barton that we envision. She will keep us apprised. She awaits further information from town planner, Chris Spencer, regarding the formation and charge of Tiverton's Historic Preservation group. It was suggested that Sue ask to participate in informal discussions to be held regarding the former Church fish factory property that is.
- Dick reported on repairs needed in Fort Barton. Garry and Dick agreed to see to those.
- Garry suggest installing a "trail guides" box at entrance to Ft Barton. He will look into a location there and also provide more guides for Weetamoo and Fort Barton to Town Hall, as requested.
- Work on post and chain project to protect earthen works will be announced via email.

Memo of Understanding:

- The draft memo of understanding with Bill Hibbad for mowing services at Weetamoo Woods prepared by Garry was approved unanimously. Motion made by Brian. Seconded by Gayle. (Attached)

Weetamoo Woods

- Garry invited members to take a site walk on Red Trail to determine what might be done to address damage caused by people redirecting the trail from its designated path. Trail stewards, Sharon Culberson and Diane Mello, will also be invited to participate. Email to follow.
- Ginger reported on printing of trail maps by the Tiverton Sign Shop. George had agreed to print maps for us in exchange for a line indicating that the printing was donated by the shop. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that because we were requesting a large number of maps, TOSC should help to cover the cost of the paper involved. Ginger will follow up. It was recommended that balance of \$32.91 in OS Appropriation be used for this.

Education and Grants

- **Public Program on Fort Barton:** At the request of the Tiverton Library Services, Sue will be offering a presentation on the history of Fort Barton. Garry recommended the event be tri-sponsored by TOSC, the Tiverton Library Services (TLS) and the newly formed HPAB (Historic Preservation Advisory Board) Sue is engaged in extensive research and has gathered materials and information in preparation for grant writing and as part of our educational program.
- **Earth Day:** Sue will be providing a program for Pocasset students in grade 3 on Wednesday at Pardon Gray. She will pose as Pardon Gray for the event and tell his story to the students. After hearing the presentation, one revision was recommended. Ginger suggested the text be attached to the TOSC minutes.
- **Tiverton Clean-Up Week:** Gayle reported briefly on success of kick-off day on 4/18. Over 40 people worked on Saturday, collecting more than 80 bags of trash.
- **What Grows On In Rhode Island!** To find information on posting “green” events to this new environmental calendar for RI, visit www.WhatGrowsOnRI.com Susan Korte is managing editor: skorte@ProvidentialGardener.com

Motion to adjourn made by Garry. Seconded by Brian.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle Lawrence